

## **Churches Together in Shrewsbury Safeguarding Policy - Draft**

**1. Introduction** Churches Together in Shrewsbury (CTS) is committed to ensuring that all activities and events organised under its name provide a safe environment for children, young people, and vulnerable adults. This policy sets out the principles and procedures to safeguard all individuals who engage with CTS activities.

**2. Our Commitment** CTS recognises the duty of care and responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. We are committed to:

- Creating a safe and welcoming environment.
- Promoting the welfare of all participants.
- Preventing abuse and responding appropriately to concerns.

**3. Scope of the Policy** This policy applies to all activities and events organised under the banner of CTS. It covers all volunteers, committee members, staff, and representatives involved in CTS activities.

### **4. Responsibilities**

- Each participating church remains responsible for its own safeguarding policies and practices.
- CTS will appoint a Safeguarding Coordinator to oversee safeguarding matters within CTS events.
- All volunteers and staff working directly with children or vulnerable adults must follow safeguarding guidelines and, where required, undergo appropriate safeguarding training and DBS checks.

### **5. Safe Practices**

- All activities must be risk assessed to identify potential safeguarding concerns.
- A minimum of two adults should be present at events involving children or vulnerable adults.
- All concerns or allegations of abuse must be taken seriously and reported in line with CTS safeguarding procedures.

### **6. Reporting and Responding to Concerns**

- Any safeguarding concerns should be reported to the Safeguarding Coordinator.
- Concerns involving immediate danger should be reported directly to statutory authorities (police or social services).
- Confidentiality will be maintained, but information may be shared on a need-to-know basis with appropriate authorities.

## **7. Training and Awareness**

- Volunteers and staff engaging with vulnerable groups will receive appropriate safeguarding training.
- Regular reviews of safeguarding procedures will be conducted to ensure compliance with best practices.

## **8. Review and Implementation**

- This policy will be reviewed annually by the CTS committee.
- Amendments may be made to reflect changes in legislation or best practice recommendations.

## **9. Contact Information**

- CTS Safeguarding Coordinator: [Name & Contact Details]
- Local Social Services: [Contact Details]
- Police (Non-Emergency): 101
- NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

This policy was adopted by Churches Together in [Local Area] on [Date] and will be reviewed annually.